

## County Board Meeting.

The county board of commissioners met on Friday, January 28th with Supervisor Dorn and sixteen township commissioners present. After the minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved, Aldermen Reid and McLaurin of the city council came before the board and stated that they had been directed by the council to complain that the crossings from the Court House square to Main Street were a nuisance, that parties passing on the sidewalk had been nearly run over by vehicles coming out of Court House square.

The board then, under the act, put into the jury box, as directed by the Clerk of Court, 384 names for grand and petit jurors and 150 names for jurors for fiscal year 1898, all townships being represented in said jury box. A communication from sundry citizens asking that a platform be built under the portico of the Court House as a protection from rain for the Mayor and other public officials when making public appearances. Bytteneberg and Wilder were appointed to look into the matter and report at next meeting.

An account of George Herriot for damage to mule, \$3, and bridge work, \$5.00, was presented and ordered paid.

Coroner Moses was before the board in reference to his account, presented at last meeting of board, for holding an inquest over the dead body of Miss Mary Hammond. After the examination of several witnesses, the account, amounting to \$10.72, was approved and ordered paid.

The commissioners of Middleton and Private townships were directed to open the dead passing through the Bell Mill place, at the request of Mrs. Taomey, the only land owner.

The investigation of the charges against Mr. J. S. Folk, who was suspended as guard of the chain gang by Supervisor Dorn, was taken up. Mr. L. D. Jonathan, attorney for Mr. Folk, was present, and County Attorney, A. B. Stanley, appeared for Supervisor Dorn.

Charges were preferred by Supervisor Dorn that Mr. Folk had left the gang, stating that he did not expect to return except to get his trunk. Overseer White, Mr. Sam Newman, Mr. A. K. Burrows, J. S. Folk, and Supervisor Dorn were sworn and examined. The case was fully discussed, and on motion it was ordered that Mr. Folk be reinstated and that he be paid his salary from December 1st. Mr. Folk then tendered his resignation which was accepted.

The Supervisor was empowered to appoint and discharge guards of the chain gang for good and sufficient reasons.

Commissioner Brownfield read a resolution, which he said he would explain at next meeting and present for action.

Frank Sherwood was down town to-day, the first time since he had his trouble with cholera morbus. He says he drove thirty miles after he was taken, and never came so near dying in his life. After this when he goes out in the country he will take a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy with him—Missouri Valley (Iowa) Times. For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

## Stage People Fight.

The Cora Van Tassel Company did not give the performance at the Academy of Music on Saturday night as advertised. The reason for the non-performance was a row between members of the company, several of whom were said to be in an advanced state of intoxication. There was almost a free fight behind the scenes and there were several conflicts between individual members of the company. As there was a very small audience present the disappointment was not great when the manager of the house refused to permit the curtain to be raised. Later in the night after the members of the company had gone to their boarding house the row assumed a more serious aspect, one of the men attacking his wife with a razor with which he inflicted a severe, but not dangerous wound. The woman, it appears, is accustomed to rough treatment when her lord and master is in his cups, and made no complaint to the representatives of the law, consequently the criminal docket of the next court has one less case of assault and battery on it.

Fights seem to be the proper career behind the scenes at this time, this morning's papers having an account of a free fight on the stage of the Savannah theatre on Saturday night followed by the disbanding of the company. If the Cora Van Tassel company had advertised the scrap and arranged to give it on the stage as a special attraction between the acts of the regular bill, or as a grand finale, the audience would have been much larger and the receipts of the three night's engagement would have been swelled to an appreciable extent.

In a recent letter from Washington, D. C., to an old friend, Major G. A. Studer, for twenty years United States Consul at Singapore, says: "While at Des Moines I became acquainted with a liniment known as Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I found excellent against rheumatism as well as against soreness of the throat and chest (giving me much easier breathing). I had a touch of pneumonia early this week, and two applications freely applied to the throat and chest relieved me of it at once. I would not be without it for anything." For sale by Dr. A. J. China.

## A Terrible Explosion.

A terrible explosion occurred Monday at the store of J. Bytteneberg & Sons that shook the whole store. All the clerks were stunned for the instant, as no one looked for such a thing. The fire department was not called out as the firm did not wish their customers to have any damaged or water-soaked goods.

The explosion occurred in the office and was caused by a steel pointed pen scratching on a piece of paper these words: "Sell everything in the store for cost, for cash."

No outsiders except competitors were hurt by same, and all present started in to find what they needed in the debris.

You have the entire month of February to do likewise according to their advertisement, but if you want choice bargains go early and often.

## FIRE IN DARLINGTON.

Loss Between Ten and Twelve Thousand Dollars.

Darlington, Feb. 1.—Fire was discovered in the military department of Sligh's dry goods store at 2 o'clock this morning and for a time there was every indication of, and every reason to fear another disastrous fire of which this city has had more than her share within recent years. Sligh's store is one of several in the large Hewitt Block on the square, and the destruction of this block would have been a heavy loss and would have left a big gap in the business portion of the town. The military department was located on the second floor, and although after a hard fight in confining the flames to the upper floor and finally extinguished them, the entire stock on both floors was badly damaged by smoke and water. A large stock of fine dress goods, and a great deal of fine bed dress goods, and a great deal of fine heavy, a conservative estimate placing it at ten to twelve thousand dollars. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

## Farmers, Preachers and Teachers.

Ionis, S. C., Jan. 28, 1898.—I will endeavor to give you a few scattering thoughts, as it has been sometime since I have done so. Farmers are going ahead with their work. We have had very nice weather for farm work up to date, but look for bad weather yet to come. We are not trying to farm from choice at all, it is because we can't do anything else. I know of two young men that thought they would do something else, but I believe they are about to fail. Five cent cotton is poor encouragement for the farmers, but it is better than nothing, for we can get a lean on a cotton crop, which enables us to raise something else at the same time.

We have an able preacher this year on the Smithville Circuit, Rev. W. T. Duncan, can't say, though, that he is any better than, Rev. Peter Stokes; but we are well pleased with him, so far.

Our Free Schools will run longer this year than they ever have since they have been in existence, and now I think it behooves patrons and trustees, to try and get good teachers, if we have to pay better salary. I am not condemning all the teachers that are now teaching, for some of them are very good. But would suggest to those that expect to teach, that if all the trustees are of my opinion, it will be well for them to prepare themselves better than some have done. My experience with the teachers that I have come in contact with, is that they need something more than a first grade certificate. I have found out that the certificate, has but little to do with teaching. There is something more needed as well as education, to be successful.

We have enough money in this district this year to run the schools eight months, at \$75 per month. So, for two reasons, I would suggest that we employ better teachers and pay better wages. The first reason is, that the majority of children can't go to school more than six months in the year, four in winter and two in summer; second is, that I believe that five months in the year, taught by a good teacher will be worth more to the children than eight months will be, as taught by some. Of course, I don't mean any of the present teachers that are doing their whole duty. I think if they are, they ought to have better pay. So, I, for one, expect another year, if should live, to vote for competent teachers in every respect, and better pay.

And another thing that is wrong in our free school system is, the trustees are not doing their duty. But that is very easily accounted for—they get nothing but abuse for their pay; so they are not inclined to work very hard for that. It is the duty, I think, of the trustees to visit all the schools, and make investigation of different things. This they do not do, from the fact that they cannot afford to work for the public for nothing. So their work is like the darkey's preach, poor preach and poor pay. I think it would be nothing amiss for our legislators to make some little amendment along this line.

Well, enough for this time; you may hear from this scribe again.

DRY JIM.

## Made Gen. Sumter's Coffin.

There died on Dr. J. C. Spann's mill place on Sunday January 23rd, a man who had attained the age of almost a century. This man was Armstrong Rodgers, at one time a well known carpenter. His age was not definitely known, but his age was great and the oldest men in the neighborhood recollect him only as a man past middle age.

He claimed to have been a grown man working at his trade in 1833, at which time he made the coffin in which Gen. Sumter was buried. Rodgers was never a slave, having been one of the few negro freemen in this country. He always bore a good reputation and was respected by the white people.

## The Result of Vaccination.

The Manning Correspondent of the Columbia Register says that a report is current that a daughter of ex-Representative E. A. Tindal of Summerton will have an arm amputated as the result of vaccination.

## Magnolia News.

## Capt. Keels' House Burned—Other Matters.

Magnolia, S. C., Jan. 31, 1898.—No reduction in the cotton acreage in this part of the county: more guano will be used than was last year. I guess this is the situation all over the cotton growing states. The farmers have taken advantage of the fine weather in January and are well advanced in preparation for the coming crop.

Capt. D. E. Keels' residence and a portion of its contents was burned to ashes on last Saturday about midday. A stiff wind was blowing from the north, and the flames spread rapidly, soon enveloping the entire building. Small fragments of burning shingles were blown over a hundred yards and fell on the M. E. Church, but was soon extinguished by active and willing hands, though much anxiety was felt about the church for awhile. Capt. Keels' house was built about forty-four years ago. It was insured for \$500 and the furniture for \$200. The Captain and family have the sympathy of the community in this loss and great inconvenience.

Capt. W. J. McLeod, although a little improved, is still very feeble and he hardly looks like himself. He has the sympathy and kind wishes of many.

Miss Mary Miller is still extremely feeble and her many friends would rejoice could they be assured that she is improving.

Prof. Chaffin of Certersville has organized a singing class in this place.

The Epworth League, in this community, is progressing slowly. Our esteemed pastor, Rev. Mr. Justus, was recently elected president of the League.

Dr. O. A. Darby, after several days confinement to his room, is out again, I am pleased to say.

A new parsonage on a modern style is now being erected by the Methodists of this place.

OCCASIONAL.

## A Horse Book Free.

We have a number of Dr. Kendall's "Treatise on the Horse," for distribution to subscribers, as a premium to those who pay in advance. The book contains much valuable information including descriptions of diseases and remedies for same. We will be glad to have our subscribers call and get copies—free to all who pay up.

## Cost of Running the City.

Mr. Editor: The statement made in *The Icon* some days ago to the effect that the proposed license ordinance was a necessity, because the city was borrowing money is not a necessary conclusion from the premises. To say that because the city is borrowing money, therefore a license ordinance is necessary, is, at least, putting it strong. If this be reason sufficient, then there will always be necessity for a license ordinance, so long as the city fathers see fit to make the expenditures exceed the income. It is not my purpose to criticize the present city council, for I believe it has managed the city affairs fairly well, at least not extravagantly. To force a discriminating, unfair, unjust license bill upon an unwilling people because, forsooth, the city is borrowing money will hardly satisfy the voters of the necessity. One would naturally ask, is there a necessity to borrow money? The answer to which question will involve some insight into the status of the city's finances.

The fact is the city has been borrowing money in anticipation of the collection of its taxes, from year to year, since way back in the seventies, when through somebody's fault, it fell heir to a debt of some \$12,000, \$4,000 of which was paid off gradually out of the income for ordinary city purposes, and the other \$8,000 the city is now carrying as a part of its bonded debt. In the early nineties, the city had about recovered from the outlay of this \$4,000, when the building of the present Opera House was accomplished at a cost of some \$32,000, about \$6,000 in excess of the money realized from the bonds voted for that purpose, and the insurance money received from the Town Hall. This \$6,000 had, of course, to be paid out of the income for ordinary city purposes. So the necessity to borrow money in anticipation of the taxes, is not occasioned by the want of a license bill, for even with a license bill, such as is now proposed, enforced to the letter, the same necessity to forestall the taxes by borrowing money would exist. In confirmation of this, it need only be said that during the present fiscal year the city has had to borrow some \$10,000—the enforcement of the license bill would probably add \$3,000 to the revenues of the city.

But I take it, Mr. Editor, that what you really meant was that even after the city has borrowed what money it can in anticipation of the taxes, and even after all the revenues of the city are collected and expended, then there remains the necessity to borrow money to meet current liabilities. In other words that the expenditures of the city are in excess of its income, and hence the necessity of a license bill to increase the income. Granting, Mr. Editor, for the sake of the argument, that the expenditures exceed the income, might it not be well before conceding the necessity for a discriminating, unfair and unjust license bill, one which bears heavily on those who already contribute mainly to the support of the city government; to inquire first, whether there is necessity that the expenditures should exceed the income? Second, if some more just, fair and equitable plan for increasing the city revenues might not be devised?

The income of the city for the present fiscal year is about \$22,000, which does not include the school tax, which, of course, must be applied to the city schools. Out of this \$22,000 there are certain fixed charges which in all events must be paid, as water rents, electric lights, and interest on bonds, these items amount to \$9,220, leaving a balance of \$12,380 for ordinary city purposes. I believe the city expenditures can and ought to be kept within this limit. The expenditures of the city for the present fiscal year have exceeded the income about \$2,000. I am not sufficiently familiar with the management of the finances to say just where and how this \$2,000 can be curtailed. Something might be done in the line of street expenses. The amount expended on streets is something like \$4,000, to what purpose every voter can judge for himself, while only about \$1,200 has been realized from the street tax. In these times of financial depression the city government is in duty bound, as far as possible, to economize the city expenses, to make the cloth fit the garment.

But if after all the retrenchment cannot be made without detriment to the welfare of the city, then make the street tax \$3 instead of \$1.50, as it now is. This will bring in some \$2,500; spend this much and no more on street improvement, and then the city can be run within its income. Such a street tax is fair, just and equitable. Of course there must always be some incidental license, such as on foreign corporations, shows, and even that class of domestic business which requires special police regulation.

But to seek, upon the eve of an election, to enforce a wholesale license bill, upon the wisdom, to say nothing of the necessity, of which there is wide difference of opinion both in the City Council and among the people, is, to say the least of it, impolitic. It makes it a question of politics, rather than, as it should be, a question of wise, judicious financial management.

VOTER.

## Meteorological Record.

The following is a report of observations of the weather taken at Stateburg, by Dr. W. W. Anderson, for the past week, ending Jan. 30, 1898:

| Date | Temperature. |      |       | Wind.       | Rainfall. | Condition. |
|------|--------------|------|-------|-------------|-----------|------------|
|      | Max.         | Min. | Mean. |             |           |            |
| 24   | 57           | 41   | 49    | E. vs. S.   | .00       | *Cloudy    |
| 25   | 61           | 42   | 51.5  | E.          | .89       | Cloudy     |
| 26   | 62           | 44   | 53.   | N.W. vs. S. | .00       | Clear      |
| 27   | 51           | 32   | 41.5  | W.          | .00       | Clear      |
| 28   | 53           | 32   | 42.5  | SW.         | .00       | *Cloudy    |
| 29   | 53           | 37   | 45.   | N.W.        | .00       | Clear      |
| 30   | 45           | 33   | 39.   | N.          | .04       | Cloudy     |

\*Partly cloudy.

Max. temperature on the 25th was about 9 p. m. instead of 2 to 3 p. m. as is usually the case. On the 30th snow fell from about 10.30 a. m. to 12 m., quite briskly for a part of the time, but melted as fast as it fell.

## Review of the Smallpox Situation in the City of Orangeburg.

Special to The State.

Orangeburg, Jan. 29.—When doctors cannot or will not agree how is a poor layman to tell where he is at?

I made an effort to-day to get the facts as to what kind of "pox" it is that has been afflicting some of the students of the State colored college. But there is very little to be learned beyond what has already been given in the columns of *The State* by its local correspondent here. The physicians are as far apart as the poles in opinions. Dr. Lowman, the chairman of the board of health, says most positively that the disease is only chickenpox, while other equally reputable physicians say they have no doubt whatever that it is smallpox. I did not succeed in seeing the chairman of the board of health Dr. Lowman, Sr., but saw his son, who is also a physician and holds his father's opinion in the case.

Photographer Rosenger has taken photographs of four of the victims, all of which I saw. Montague, the first patient, is entirely well, and there is no trace of a pimple on his face. But the physicians say that "discrete" smallpox does not always leave pimples. The second picture shows very few if any pimples, in the third the man is spotted here and there all over the face, and the fourth is about the worst looking piece of living humanity I have ever seen. If he has chickenpox, then from chickenpox, good Lord deliver us. This man, who is named Conyers, escaped from the college and went to his home in Sumter, where he was not allowed to stay. He came back to the college and was taken sick last Monday. The photograph was taken Thursday.

Dr. Lowman says Conyers' case is the worst because he was so exposed in "beating" his way to and from Sumter, not being allowed on the train. I asked him if he had ever known a case of chickenpox as bad as this, and he said that a little daughter of Claffy here had as bad a case. He says that the mucous membrane is always affected in smallpox, and that this is not the case with the prevalent disease. On the other hand another physician says that the conjunctiva on Conyers is so affected that he cannot keep his eyes open, and that he has a sore on his lip, which is a mucous membrane. The sore on the lip is visible in the picture. His mouth also is sore, and he is salivated.

The quarantine of the town against the college has been raised, though of course the sick students are in the pest house, separated from the college. If the disease is only chickenpox it is not understood why the patients should be put in a pest house, for this has not been done with members of other towns that have had chickenpox from time to time. Dr. Lowman explains that it was done simply to allay the fears of citizens. But some citizens are protesting against allowing the students of the college the freedom of the town again.

As to whether Orangeburg has smallpox or chickenpox, each reader may take his choice. I don't pretend to know, but I am sure no one wants the disease that Student Conyers has.

F. C. WITHERS

## Another Case in Greenville.

Greenville, Jan. 27.—Another case of smallpox is reported this afternoon in a white family, on Highland avenue, not far from the Stenhouse place. This is the first case reported in the last 20 days, and is not yet so pronounced by the board of health, owing to the lateness of the hour when it was reported.

At 4 o'clock this morning fire partially destroyed a house on Buckner street, belonging to Haynesworth, Parker & Furman. The house was a two story structure, occupied by negroes. It was fully insured.

## The Acquittal of Newbold.

Last week, in Spartanburg, the bloody, high headed, high-handed whiskey constable, was acquitted, outright and totally, of the murder of the venerable and beloved Mr. Turner of that county. And it stirs the hot blood of righteous indignation to contemplate this acquittal. The life of a hundred Newbolds could not atone for the loss of such a man as Turner was—nor for the fearful outrage upon the right of a citizen to peacefully travel the highway upon a peaceful mission.—Edgefield Chronicle.

## Webster is Boss.

## Aspirants for Positions Should Address Him.

Special to The Register.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Mr. E. A. Webster having been confirmed as internal revenue collector and gone to South Carolina, the republican office seekers from that state have likewise departed. And well they may, for it is a fact known here to all informed persons that, so far as concerns federal appointments in the Palmetto state, Webster can say in the language of Cooper: "I am monarch of all I survey. My right there is none to dispute."

No appointment has yet been made in that state by this administration, and what is more, will not be made without his written endorsement, from the office of district attorney, the choicest plum there, to the smallest fourth-class postmaster. So it will be well for all those who desire to serve their country down there to recognize existing conditions and, instead of expending their time and money by coming up here, simply go to Columbia and call at the collector's office and make terms with Mr. Webster.

A battle royal is expected here on Tuesday next before committee No. 3, of elections, when the Murray-Elliott contested election case from the first South Carolina district comes up for consideration. All parties and their attorneys are now on the ground, and both sides express the greatest confidence in the result.

Mr. J. M. Tindall, of Sumter, S. C., a prominent republican of that place, who spent some time up here after the postmastership there, returned to his home a day or so ago, impressed with the belief that he will not receive the appointment.

It is certain that several postmasters in South Carolina, presidential as well as fourth-class, will be made in the near future.

## CAROLINA CONTESTS.

## Decision Will be Reached This Week.

Special to The Register.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.—Elaborate and able arguments were made to-day before the committee on elections in the Murray-Elliott contested elections case by Dudley and Michener of this city for the contestant and by Mr. Wells of this place and "Joe" Barnwell of Charleston in behalf of Col. Elliott.

The argument of Mr. Barnwell was exceptionally strong and by his manliness and independence completely captured the committee.

The day after to-morrow the Johnstone Stokes contest comes up. It is probable that decisions will be rendered in the three South Carolina election cases in a few days.

A very serious question for our lawmakers at this time is to say whether or not the people want the lien law repealed. Can the repeal of the law do anything towards helping the farmer? Then the question will be asked if the law is repealed, will merchants give credit on anything short of real estate security? As we have before expressed, we do not think it will be for the best interests of the people to repeal the lien law, and the more we think of the matter, the more are we convinced that the very evil which is sought to be rendered by the repeal of the law will militate against a class who will not submit to such oppression. The lien law is like everything else, bad when abused; the laws of nature are bad when abused, but if a man whose financial condition is such that he must have credit to transact his business, and he uses that credit properly, who will say that credit to him is not a blessing? In our judgment the lien law should not be repealed, but better still, enforced to the letter.—Manning Times

The Archer crowd is reported as carrying its fight against Governor Elberle to extreme lengths. When the governor appointed Auditor Epton, of Spartanburg, to be comptroller general, he also appointed Mr. Brewton to be auditor. The Archer people are now working to prevent the confirmation of Brewton's appointment by the senate, and the understanding is that if they succeed and the governor re appoints Mr. Epton to his old place, an effort will be made to prevent the confirmation of this appointment also. Strange and wonderful are the politics of the politicians.—Yorkville Enquirer.

It is stated that the people of Laurens and Greenville will contest the recent sale of the Charleston and Western Carolina railway to the Atlantic Coast Line. The stockholders don't seem to like the swallowing idea.

## A Very Remarkable Young Man.

It will be remembered that some eight or ten years ago, while the two little boys, John and George, of Mrs. Anna Swearingen, who is a sister of the Hon. George D. Tillman and Senator Ben Tillman, were out hunting, one of their guns was accidentally discharged, the discharge striking full in the face of John and depriving him of the sight of both eyes. He is the elder of the two boys. After a few months suffering, during which time everything that science and money could do for him was done, vainly, the boy became happy and cheerful, and returned with renewed alidity to his studies, which he had always loved. After four or five years at the Spartanburg Institution for the Blind, in which he gained the highest honors, even becoming withal a good piano player, he was sent to the South Carolina College, from which institution comes now, dated December 23d, 1897, a report bearing upon its face seven or eight I's each I followed by two small stars. This means "highest distinction." And more than this, President Woodward writes upon the report—sent to Mrs. Swearingen—"This is the highest record in College. Your son is our finest student, and I congratulate you on his continued and progressive improvement." And yet this boy is blind. A blind boy from Edgefield reaches the highest record ever attained in the old South Carolina College. We rejoice heartily with his widowed mother.—Greenwood Index

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

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Feb 24

Sumter, S. C.



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TUOMEY-BLOCK.

Oct 25

## NOTICE OF REGISTRATION.

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, SUMTER COUNTY.

OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR OF REGISTRATION, SUMTER COUNTY.

SUMTER, S. C., May 1, 1897.

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with an Act of the General Assembly, the books for the registration of all legally qualified voters, and for the issuing of transfers, &c., will be open at the court house, between the hours of 9 o'clock a. m., and 3 o'clock p. m., on the first Monday of each month, and on three successive days, until thirty days before the next general election. Minors who shall become of age during that period of thirty days, shall be entitled to registration before the books are closed, otherwise qualified.

E. F. BURROWS, Supervisor of Registration.

Feb 1.

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Jan 25—1f.